

# Montgomery Cares Advisory Board

## (10/25/2023), 2023 Meeting Notes

**MCAB Members Present:** Wayne Swann, Diana Saladini, Mark Foraker, Dr. Katherine Kelly, Susan Emery, Viviana Azar, Melinda Hite, Yuchi Huang, Denise Kishel, Peter Lowet, Melanie Bunting, Sharron Holquin

**MCAB Members Absent:** Dr. Kisha Davis, Dr. Helaine Resnick

**DHHS Staff:** Dr. Christopher Rogers, Ashley Miller, Bob Morrow, Sean Gibson, LaSonya Kelly

**County Council Staff:** Tara Clemons

**Primary Care Coalition:** Leslie Graham, Marisol Ortiz, Veronic Vella, Sara Woods, Sarah Frazell, Sean Wright, Hillery Tsumba

**Guest:** Sonya Bruton

Wayne Swann, called the meeting to order at 6:10 pm. The meeting was held virtually via Microsoft Teams video/teleconference.

Item		Action Follow-up	Person Assigned	Due Date
1.	<p><b>Approval of Minutes – September 27, 2023</b></p> <p><i>Moved by: Peter Lowet</i>  <i>Seconded by: Yuchi Huang</i>  <i>The motion was passed unanimously.</i></p>			
2.	<p><b>Montgomery Cares Advisory Board Chair Report – Wayne Swann</b></p> <p>Wayne noted the requirement for Board members to take meeting minutes and gave a brief review of expectations. A document will be sent out following the meeting for Board members to sign up to take minutes.</p> <p>Wayne and Diana attended and gave an update on the County Council HHS Committee annual meeting with the County Boards, Committees and Commissions (BCC) that was held on October 11, 2023. Representatives from all Montgomery County BCCs were in attendance. Wayne and Diana gave an update on MCAB activities and outlined top priorities for MCAB in FY24.</p> <p>Upcoming MCAB priorities are on officer nominations, specifically the Chair and Vice nominees, as well as general membership recruitment. Wayne and Diana outlined the main responsibilities of the Chair and Vice Chair. Ashley Miller discussed the officer nomination process, emphasizing that at this time nominations will be made at the December meeting and the voting will occur during the January meeting. Voting will be electronic and officers will</p>	MCAB members interested in joining the nominating committee should contact Wayne, Diana and Ashley.		Immediate Action

	<p>be elected by a majority vote. Nominees should be present at the December and the January meetings. Denise, Melinda and Wayne will comprise the nominating committee, no other members volunteer to participate at the time of the meeting.</p>			
3.	<p><b>Health Officer Update – Dr. Kisha Davis</b></p> <p>Ashley Miller reported that Dr. Davis was unable to make the meeting. A written October update from Dr. Davis will be sent by Ashley Miller following the meeting.</p>	Dr. Davis to provide a written October update.	Ashley will send out the written update from Dr. Davis to the Board	Prior to December meeting
4.	<p><b>Healthcare for the Uninsured Report Q&amp;A – Dr. Christopher Rogers and DHHS Staff</b></p> <p>See Report</p> <p>Board members were asked prior to the meeting to review the Healthcare for the Uninsured Report and bring any questions to the meeting. Dr. Rogers gave a brief overview of the report and focused on highlighting specific items including the increase in encounters for both the Montgomery Cares and Care for Kids (CFK) programs. CFK is on track to exceed 9,000 children enrolled in the program this year. Dr. Rogers detailed the residential treatment service integration work with the CFK program and highlighted the public / private partnership features and benefits of this integration model. The dental program collaborative concept is moving forward and a consultant organization has been engaged to facilitate the changes and adjustments necessary for the inclusion of non-County dental providers in the program. Some Montgomery Cares participating clinics are still receiving block payments and the block payment option will not be extended past December 30, 2023. In 2024 clinics will move to Fee For Service. DHHS will reinstate the full presumptive eligibility (two-visit) policy starting January 1,2024. The overview was followed by a Q&amp;A session.</p> <p>Peter requested clarification on OESS’ role and capacity regarding the two-visit policy. Dr. Rogers explained that at this time all clinics are responsible for collecting Montgomery Cares applications and conducting eligibility screenings. OESS is only processing applications for patients who need a Project Access specialty care referral.</p> <p>Susan requested historical information on the dental program as a new member of the dental subcommittee. Ashley will follow up with Dr. Boyce to provide this information.</p> <p>Yuchi requested clarification on trends included in the Healthcare for the Homeless slides. Ashley will follow up with LaSonya to provide this information.</p>	Ashley to follow up with Dr. Boyce regarding historical dental program information	Ashley and Dr. Boyce	Prior to December meeting

		<p>. Dr. Boyce will follow up with Susan.</p> <p>Ashley to follow up with LaSonya regarding question on Healthcare for the Homeless slides. LaSonya will follow up with Yuchi</p>	Ashley and LaSonya	Prior to December meeting
5.	<p><b>Montgomery Cares Program Report – Dr. Veronica Vella</b></p> <p>See Report</p> <p>Dr. Vela gave an overview of the first quarter for the Montgomery Cares program including encounter targets, updates on the behavioral health program, and an overview of general utilization. Dr. Vella mentioned that Care for Your Health and Casa Ruben are officially participating in the Montgomery Cares Program. Casa Ruben was already participating in the CFK program. An overview was provided on specialty referral program capacity and challenges with meeting increased need from the clinics.</p> <p>Peter noted a decrease in the rate of requested for Project Access. Dr. Vela explained that there was a delay with some of the clinics returning signed agreements. Scheduling could not move forward prior to the clinics returning the signed agreements. Some of the clinics have also been understaffed. New clinics staff has been added and PCC is providing additional support to resolve this.</p> <p>-</p>			
6.	<p><b>Committee Breakouts – MCAB</b></p> <p>Wayne opened the discussion regarding committee breakout sessions and the Board members present determined that this was not necessary at this time.</p>			

7.	<p><b>Advocacy Priorities / Letter to the County Executive – Wayne Swann and Diana Saladini</b></p> <p>Wayne gave an overview of the FY25 advocacy prioritization process and calendar as well as opportunities to streamline the process. This will be the second year using the new advocacy process.</p> <p>The next steps include preparing a letter to County Executive in November and similar prioritization letter will be sent to the County Council in April. Each MCAB committee will put forward at least two priorities for FY25 and a brief description will be included in the letter. Wayne will develop a draft that will be distributed to the full MCAB Board for comment. Once the letter is updated and finalized Ashley will send the letter to the County Executive’s Office.</p>	FY25 MCAB CE Letter will be sent to the Board for review and comment.	Wayne Swann and Ashley Miller	Imme diate Actio n
8.	<p><b>December 13, 2023 Agenda and Next Steps</b></p> <p>The next MCAB meeting is on Wednesday 12/13/2023. Format to be determined. Ashley Miller will send out an email ahead of the meeting with meeting location details.</p> <p><b>Adjournment:</b> The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM  <b>Moved by:</b> Yuchi Huang  <b>Seconded by:</b> Peter Lowet</p>			

Respectfully submitted,

  
Mark Foraker (Mar 4, 2024 13:55 EST)

Mark Foraker  
Montgomery Cares Advisory Board Member